GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:131
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2001
BASIC SERVICE OPERATORS
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any specific plan for the basic service operators in rural areas seeking to use wireless-in local-loop (WLL) technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for not fixing a lower tariff/rental for WLL rural areas as in the case of other land-line monthly rentals; and

(d) the number of WLL connections working at present in urban and rural areas respectively, State-wise ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Basic Service Operators are free to plan provision of Village Public Telephones and Direct Exchange Lines in rural areas by using Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) technology systems.Further, Government has also permitted the usage of hand-held telephone sets by subscribers of Basic Telephone Service providers on WLL technology systems in subscriber access network within local areas of Tehsils.

(c) For WLL (Fixed), the rental and call charges are same as the rental and call charges for other landline phones in the rural areas. The rental for WLL (Fixed) and other landline phones is already substantially below cost.The rental for hand held subscriber terminal in Wireless in Local Loop systems is cost based.

(d) The information regarding the number of WLL connections working at present in various service areas, State-wise, is enclosed as Annexure.

ANNEXURE

Details of State-wise connections working on WLL

State	Name of the service provider	No. of WLLconnections
Andhra Pradesh	M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.	38310
Madhya Pradesh	M/s Bharti Telenet Ltd.	32812
	M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	41
Punjab	M/s HFCL Infotel Ltd.	12313
Bihar	M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	396
Himachal Pradesh	M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	112
Uttar Pradesh (East)	M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	482
Gujarat	M/s Reliance Telecom Pvt. Ltd	Nil
	M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	1468
Maharasthra	M/s Hughes Tele.com India Ltd.	41977
	M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	43
Rajasthan	M/s Shyam Telelink Ltd.	7130
Haryana	M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	439